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THE LABOR MARKET REPORT

TENNESSEE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AFFILIATED WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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State unemployment shows slight increase. The percentage of Tennesseans without jobs increased to 5.9 percent during September; up from August's 5.8 percent. The number of unemployed rose from the previous month's 116,000 to 119,800 while the number of employed increased from 1,890,200 to 1,902,100. The unemployment rate one year ago was 5.1 percent.

U. S. unemployment down. The nation's unemployment rate dropped to 5.6 percent during September; down from August's revised figure of 5.9 percent and down a bit from September of last year when the rate was 5.7 percent.

CPI up past 12 percent annual increase. The Consumer Price Index for September rose to 223.4 in the all urban consumers category for a 12.1 percent annual increase while the urban wage earners and clerical workers category rose to 223.7 for a 12.4 percent annual increase.

Benefit check up. The average weekly benefit for unemployed workers increased to $72.69 during September. This represented a 2.7 percent increase over the $70.80 check for August.

Initial claims continue downward. Initial claims dropped again during September; declining from August's 38,816 to 29,728.

Transportation cost increases vary. As they watch the Consumer Price Index rise and the dollar shrink, most Americans have taken particular notice of the rapid increase in the cost of gasoline. The latest CPI figures released by the U. S. Department of Labor show that, not surprisingly. there has been a 49.4 percent increase in gasoline over the last year while transportation as a whole has seen a 17.3 percent increase. Fortunately, some areas within the transportation category have increased at a lower rate than the overall annual CPI rise, which currently is a little over twelve percent. Maintenance and repair has increased 10.1 percent over the year while new cars have gone up 8.2 percent. Though the purchase price of used cars has increased a tolerable 3.6 percent, the cost of operation continues to increase at a much faster pace. The best solution to the gasoline shortage/high price/long lines syndrome continues to be public transportation, which showed a 7.0 percent increase over the last twelve months.

Trust fund drops. The trust fund dropped to $272.6 million during September. This was an $8.7 million reduction from the previous month.

LAMAR ALEXANDER, GOVERNOR ROBERT J. BIBLE, COMMISSIONER
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STATEWIDE

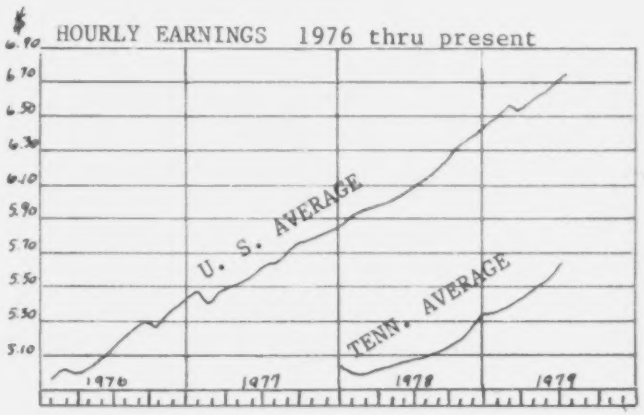
EMPLOYMENT Tennessee's labor force increased by 15,700 during September as it reached 2,021,900. The number of employed also rose with 11,900 more Tennesseans working than during the previous month. Nonagricultural employment showed its greatest monthly increase in twelve months as it gained 13,800 additional workers. By far the largest gain in nonagricultural employment came in state and local government with 12,400 more workers. Other sizeable gains occurred in retail trade, 2,300, nonelectrical machinery, 1,700, transportation equipment, 1,000, and fabricated metal products, 900. The largest loss over the month came in the apparel industry where 1,900 fewer workers were employed.

OVER THE YEAR Since September of last year the state's labor force has increased by 74,500. Employment is up by 54,600 while unemployment has jumped by 19,900. Total nonagricultural employment has shown an increase of 6,600 over the year. The largest yearly gains came in state and local government, 8,000 services, 7,700, and construction, 5,100.

Retail trade lost the most employees over the year with 3,900 fewer employees.

UNEMPLOYMENT Tennessee's unemployment rate rose to 5.9 percent; up slightly from August's 5.8 percent. The unemployment rate for September, 1978 was 5.1 percent.

HOURS AND EARNINGS Tennessee production workers earned an average $3.74 (1.7 percent) more a week during September than for August, bringing the average weekly earnings up to $223.04. The average weekly hours increased 0.1 hours to 39.9 for September. Both durable and nondurable goods showed increases in the average weekly earnings with durable goods increasing $6.82 (3.0 percent) to $234.02 and nondurable goods increasing $.60 (0.3 percent) to a weekly average of $213.25.



LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (in thousands)

	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Changes From: Aug. 1979 Net	Aug. 1979 %	Sept. 1978 Net	Sept. 1978 %
Civilian Labor Force	2,021.9	2,006.2	1,947.4	+15.7	+ 0.8	+74.5	+ 3.8
Employment 1/	1,902.1	1,890.2	1,847.5	+11.9	+ 0.6	+54.6	+ 3.0
Unemployment	119.8	116.0	99.9	+ 3.8	+ 3.3	+19.9	+19.9
Percent of Labor Force	5.9	5.8	5.1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
U. S. Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.9	5.7	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

1/ Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS

	Average Weekly Earnings Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Average Weekly Hours Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Average Hourly Earnings Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978
All Manufacturing	$223.04	$219.30	$207.88	39.9	39.8	39.9	$5.59	$5.51	$5.21
Durable Goods	234.02	227.20	215.20	40.7	40.0	40.0	5.75	5.68	5.38
Lumber and Wood Prod.	162.93	158.42	153.27	38.7	38.6	39.2	4.21	4.13	3.91
Furniture and Fixtures	172.10	173.66	152.38	38.5	39.2	38.0	4.47	4.43	4.01
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	293.30	293.02	285.09	41.9	42.1	43.0	7.00	6.96	6.63
Primary Metal Prod.	293.73	283.18	317.36	41.7	41.1	44.2	7.02	6.89	7.18
Fab. Metal Prod.	255.78	252.36	229.71	42.0	41.3	39.2	6.09	6.11	5.86
Machinery, Inc. Elec.	236.55	228.10	202.80	41.5	40.3	39.0	5.70	5.66	5.20
Instr. & Related Prod.	196.40	191.78	193.66	40.0	39.3	42.1	4.91	4.88	4.60
Nondurable Goods	213.25	212.65	201.39	39.2	39.6	39.8	5.44	5.37	5.06
Food & Kindred Prod.	233.70	236.17	217.46	41.0	41.3	40.8	5.70	5.67	5.33
Textile Mill Prod.	172.97	178.25	171.79	38.1	39.7	41.0	4.54	4.49	4.19
Apparel	149.87	151.55	139.68	36.2	37.7	36.9	4.14	4.02	3.78
Paper & Allied Prod.	295.99	297.82	278.40	43.4	43.1	43.5	6.82	6.91	6.40
Chem. & Allied Prod.	302.66	296.11	284.35	40.9	40.4	41.8	7.40	7.28	6.85
Rubber & Plastic Prod.	250.04	238.86	235.32	40.5	40.9	42.4	5.68	5.84	5.55
Leather & Leather Prod.	180.26	169.65	163.17	40.6	39.0	36.9	4.44	4.35	3.88

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

	TOTAL Sept. 1979	TOTAL Aug. 1979	DISADVANTAGED Sept. 1979	DISADVANTAGED Aug. 1979	NON-WHITE Sept. 1979	NON-WHITE Aug. 1979	VETERAN Sept. 1979	VETERAN Aug. 1979
New Applications	19,648	23,670	7,587	9,962	5,518	6,911	2,376	2,522
Testing	1,060	2,230	931	723	928	719	283	244
Enrolled in Training	671	704	466	540	275	307	75	45
Nonagricultural Placements	12,382	15,634	5,526	8,923	3,442	6,335	2,147	2,016
Counseling	3,712	3,140	2,536	2,110	1,580	1,077	564	508

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)

	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Net Change Aug. 1979 To Sept. 1979	Sept. 1978 To Aug. 1979
TOTAL	1,735.8	1,722.0	1,729.2	+13.8	+ 6.6
Manufacturing	517.2	517.0	528.0	+ 0.2	-10.8
Durable Goods	232.6	229.4	240.4	+ 3.2	- 7.8
Lumber	20.5	20.6	19.9	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Furniture & Fixtures	24.9	24.8	27.1	+ 0.1	- 2.2
Stone, Clay & Glass	16.6	16.4	17.3	+ 0.2	- 0.7
Primary Metal Industries	18.5	18.8	19.4	- 0.3	- 0.9
Fabricated Metal Products	31.0	30.7	33.4	+ 0.9	- 2.4
Nonelectrical Machinery	36.3	34.6	34.8	+ 1.7	+ 1.5
Electrical Machinery	41.7	42.1	44.1	- 0.4	- 2.4
Transportation Equipment	23.7	22.7	25.1	+ 1.0	- 1.4
Precision Instr. & Ordnance	6.9	6.9	7.0	0	- 0.1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	11.6	11.5	11.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	284.6	287.6	287.6	- 3.0	- 3.0
Food Products	40.5	40.2	40.7	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Meat Products	8.2	8.2	8.1	0	+ 0.1
Dairy Products	3.7	3.7	3.6	0	+ 0.1
Tobacco	1.5	1.5	1.2	0	+ 0.3
Textile Mills	26.5	26.5	28.4	0	- 1.9
Knitting Mills	12.8	12.9	13.9	- 0.1	- 1.1
Yarn & Thread Mills	1.9	1.7	2.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Apparel	73.7	75.6	75.9	- 1.9	- 0.2
Paper	17.6	17.6	17.9	0	- 0.3
Printing & Publishing	25.4	25.1	25.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Chemicals	56.9	57.6	57.0	- 0.7	- 0.1
Ind. Inorganic & Organic Chem.	22.6	22.7	22.2	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Petroleum Refining, Etc.	.9	.9	.9	0	0
Rubber	21.3	22.2	22.2	- 0.9	- 0.9
Leather	20.3	20.4	20.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Nonmanufacturing	1,218.6	1,205.0	1,201.2	+13.6	+17.4
Mining	10.3	11.1	10.6	- 0.8	- 0.1
Construction	97.1	97.8	92.0	- 0.7	+ 5.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	83.8	84.0	83.8	- 0.2	0
Trade	370.1	367.6	372.9	+ 2.7	- 2.8
Wholesale Trade	104.9	104.5	103.8	+ 0.4	+ 1.1
Wholesale Durable Goods	62.2	62.2	62.1	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Nondurable Goods	42.7	42.3	41.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
Retail Trade	263.2	262.9	269.1	+ 2.3	- 3.9
Retail General Merchandise	39.6	39.6	41.6	- 0.2	- 2.0
Finance, Insurance & Real. Est.	75.3	76.0	73.1	- 0.7	+ 2.2
Banking	26.7	26.9	26.3	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Insurance Carriers	19.0	19.1	18.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Services	276.5	273.9	266.8	+ 0.6	+ 7.7
Government	307.5	294.8	302.2	+12.7	+ 5.3
Federal	66.5	66.2	69.2	+ 0.3	- 2.7
State & Local	241.0	228.6	233.0	+12.4	+ 8.0

CHATTANOOGA SMSA

EMPLOYMENT Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Chattanooga SMSA increased 1,000 between mid-August and mid-September. The overall increase in nonmanufacturing resulted from the reopening of schools in the area. Losses exceeded gains in manufacturing by 200 during this period with the largest employment drop (200) occurring in textile mill products. Among nonmanufacturing industries the largest employment drop was recorded in retail trade (200). The present level of nonagricultural wage and salary employment stands at 167,600.

OVER THE YEAR Nonagricultural wage and salary employment is down 600 or 0.4 percent. The employment drop is the difference between a loss of 1,600 workers in manufacturing industries and the net gain of 1,000 workers in nonmanufacturing industries. The decrease in employment is mostly due to the slowdown of the economy in the area. The nonagricultural wage and salary level of employment a year ago was 168,200.

UNEMPLOYMENT as of mid-September was 11,700 or 6.2 percent of a labor force of 190,100 as compared with 12,000 or 6.3 percent of a labor force of 190,700 in mid-August and 10,000 or 5.4 percent of a labor force of 186,000 in September 1978.

HOURS AND EARNINGS The average weekly earnings for production workers in Chattanooga increased $4.06 (1.8 percent) to $232.64 for the month of September, while the average weekly hours remained steady at 40.6 hours. Durable goods increased 3.5 percent to $257.91; $8.67 more than last month's average weekly earnings. The average weekly hours increased from 40.2 to 41.2 during the month. Nondurable goods decreased an average of $1.33 a week in average weekly earnings as a result of a decrease of 0.8 hours in the average weekly hours. The largest gain was recorded in stone, clay, and glass products where the average weekly earnings rose from $262.64 to $283.98 (8.1 percent) with the average weekly hours going from 39.2 to 41.7 hours. The largest loss was due to overtime cutbacks in textiles mill products where average earnings fell 4.3 percent and the average weekly hours dropped from 41.3 to 39.0 hours.

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (in thousands)

	September 1979	August 1979	September 1978	Changes From: Aug. 1979 Net	Aug. 1979 %	Sept. 1978 Net	Sept. 1978 %
Civilian Labor Force	190.1	190.7	186.0	-0.6	-0.3	+4.1	+ 2.2
Unemployment	11.7	12.0	10.0	-0.3	-2.5	+1.7	+17.0
Percent of Labor Force	6.2	6.3	5.4	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total Employment	178.4	178.7	176.0	-0.3	-0.2	+2.4	+ 1.4

1/ Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS

	Average Weekly Earnings Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Average Weekly Hours Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Average Hourly Earnings Sept.	Aug.	Sept.
All Manufacturing	$232.64	$228.58	$218.28	40.6	40.6	40.8	$5.73	$5.63	$5.35
Durable Goods	257.91	249.24	240.72	41.2	40.2	40.8	6.26	6.20	5.90
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	283.98	262.64	223.09	41.7	39.2	38.2	6.81	6.70	5.84
Iron & Steel Foundries	251.37	243.81	277.65	39.9	38.7	45.3	6.30	6.30	6.13
Fabricated Metal Prod.	293.76	294.88	266.51	40.8	41.3	39.6	7.20	7.14	6.73
Machinery, Except Elect.	269.81	253.00	243.44	46.2	44.0	41.9	5.84	5.75	5.81
Nondurable Goods	209.20	210.53	197.96	40.0	40.8	40.9	5.23	5.16	4.84
Textile Mill Products	170.43	178.00	171.38	39.0	41.3	41.8	4.37	4.31	4.10
Knitting Mills	145.14	148.60	129.88	37.6	38.8	33.2	3.86	3.83	3.40
Paper and Allied Prod.	298.94	309.15	285.98	44.7	45.8	46.5	6.71	6.75	5.72
Chemicals & Allied Prod.	303.66	300.44	279.14	42.0	41.7	41.6	7.23	7.20	6.71

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)

CHATTANOOGA SMSA INDUSTRY	1979 SEPTEMBER	1979 AUGUST	1978 SEPT.	Net Change Aug'79 to Sept. 79	Net Change Sept.78 to Sept. 79
TOTAL	167.6	166.6	168.2	+1.0	-.6
Manufacturing	54.1	54.3	55.7	-.2	-1.6
Durable Goods	24.2	24.3	25.3	-.1	-1.1
Lumber (except furniture)	.8	.7	.8	+.1	0
Stone, Clay and Glass	2.7	2.7	2.5	0	+.2
Primary Metals	4.8	4.9	5.1	-.1	-.3
Fabricated Metal Prod.	8.1	8.2	8.7	-.1	-.6
Machinery (except elec.)	3.6	3.5	3.5	+.1	+.1
All Other	4.2	4.3	4.7	-.1	-.5
Nondurable Goods	29.9	30.0	30.4	-.1	-.5
Food Products	5.1	4.9	4.9	+.2	+.2
Textile Mill Products	13.2	13.4	13.7	-.2	-.5
Knitting Mills	2.9	3.0	3.2	-.1	-.3
Apparel	1.4	1.3	1.4	+.1	0
Paper Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Printing and Publishing	1.7	1.8	1.7	-.1	0
Chemicals	6.0	6.0	6.0	0	0
All Other	1.3	1.4	1.5	-.1	-.2
Nonmanufacturing	113.5	112.3	112.5	+1.2	+1.0
Mining	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Construction	7.1	7.1	7.4	0	-.3
Trans., Comm., and Pub. Util.	6.8	6.9	6.7	-.1	+.1
Trade	30.0	30.2	30.5	-.2	-.5
Wholesale Trade	8.6	8.6	8.3	0	+.3
Wholesale Durable Goods	5.5	5.5	5.2	0	+.3
Wholesale Nondurable Goods	3.1	3.1	3.1	0	0
Retail Trade	21.4	21.6	22.2	-.2	-.8
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	9.8	9.8	9.5	0	+.3
Service	26.1	26.1	26.0	0	+.1
Government	32.2	30.8	31.0	+1.5	+1.3
Federal	9.9	9.9	10.5	0	-.6
State and Local	22.4	20.9	20.5	+1.5	+1.9

Includes Hamilton, Marion, Sequatchie Counties, Tennessee and Catoosa, Dade, Walker Counties, Georgia.

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

	TOTAL Sept. 1979	TOTAL Aug. 1979	DISADVANTAGED Sept. 1979	DISADVANTAGED Aug. 1979	NON-WHITE Sept. 1979	NON-WHITE Aug. 1979	VETERAN Sept. 1979	VETERAN Aug. 1979
New Applications	1,595	1,874	662	709	380	431	224	257
Testing	171	142	51	52	32	51	27	34
Enrolled in Training	67	86	28	76	21	60	2	5
Nonagricultural Placements	717	845	396	463	192	248	149	169
Counseling	196	297	132	208	73	135	37	43

KNOXVILLE SMSA

EMPLOYMENT Nonagricultural employment decreased by 100 over the month. The manufacturing sector was almost unchanged with losses in apparel (100) and all other nondurable goods (100) constituting all of that sector's activity. The nonmanufacturing sector, as a whole, showed even less change as its net gain was 100 although its industries were a little more active. Government showed the largest increase (800) while mining suffered the largest loss (400). A gain in construction (200) and a loss in trade (100) completed the changes within the sector. A total of eleven industries showed no change over the month.

OVER THE YEAR Nonagricultural employment in the Knoxville SMSA had declined by 1,000 workers over the past twelve months Manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries shared equally in the decline as each lost 500 workers. Industries losing the most employees were apparel (1,000), trade (600), and mining (500). No industry showed an increase of over 300.

UNEMPLOYMENT The unemployment rate for the Knoxville area rose slightly during September to 4.3 percent from the previous month's 4.1 percent figure. The number of employed increased 4,900 while those without jobs went up by 500. The SMSA's unemployment rate during September, '78 was 4.1 percent.

HOURS AND EARNINGS The average weekly earnings for Knoxville production workers increased $6.30 (2.4 percent) to $264.79 for September. The average weekly hours also increased 0.6 hours for the same time period. Durable goods average weekly earnings increased 5.9 percent to $303.45 while the average weekly hours increased from 41.3 to 42.8 hours. The largest increase was in stone, clay and glass products which went from an average weekly earnings of $260.80 to $284.82 (9.2 percent) while the average weekly hours increased only 0.4 hours. Nondurable goods average weekly earnings rose only $1.23 (0.5 percent) to $243.58 while the average weekly hours increased by 0.2 hour to 39.8 hours. Increases were partially offset by declines in the apparel and other textile products industries which fell 3.4 percent in average weekly earnings and 0.4 hours in average weekly hours.

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (in thousands)

	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Changes From: Aug. 1979 Net	Aug. 1979 %	Sept. 1978 Net	Sept. 1978 %
Civilian Labor Force	214.0	209.6	202.0	5.4	2.6	12.0	5.9
Unemployment	9.1	8.6	8.1	0.5	6.0	0.8	9.8
Percent of Labor Force	4.3	4.1	4.1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total Employment	204.9	200.0	193.7	4.9	2.4	11.2	5.8

1/ Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS

	Average Weekly Earnings Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Average Weekly Hours Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Average Hourly Earnings Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978
All Manufacturing	$264.79	$258.49	$247.61	40.8	40.2	41.2	$6.49	$6.43	$6.01
Durable Goods	303.45	286.62	271.77	42.8	41.3	42.2	7.09	6.94	6.44
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	284.82	260.80	232.27	40.4	40.0	41.7	7.05	6.52	5.57
Machinery, Except Elect.	275.02	252.59	225.48	46.3	43.4	40.7	5.94	5.82	5.54
Nondurable Goods	243.58	242.35	234.67	39.8	39.6	40.6	6.12	6.12	5.78
Food & Kindred Prod.	226.90	223.10	212.52	46.4	46.0	46.1	4.89	4.85	4.61
Textile Mill Prod.	144.72	142.50	160.91	38.8	38.0	41.8	3.73	3.75	3.85
Apparel & Other Tex. Prod.	170.70	176.70	167.40	37.6	38.0	37.2	4.54	4.65	4.50

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

	TOTAL Sept. 1979	TOTAL Aug. 1979	DISADVANTAGED Sept. 1979	DISADVANTAGED Aug. 1979	NON-WHITE Sept. 1979	NON-WHITE Aug. 1979	VETERAN Sept. 1979	VETERAN Aug. 1979
New Applications	1,807	2,902	612	1,609	256	725	259	233
Testing	173	198	87	106	49	62	18	32
Enrolled in Training	91	91	80	84	46	46	9	10
Nonagricultural Placements	1,875	2,894	775	1,974	260	1,019	193	266
Counseling	165	230	119	128	37	40	18	39

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	September 1979	August 1979	September 1978	Net Change Aug. 1979	Net Change Sept. 1978
TOTAL	195.9	196.0	196.9	- .1	-1.0
Manufacturing	51.7	51.9	54.2	- .2	- .5
Durable Goods	16.0	16.0	15.6	0	+ .4
Lumber (except furniture)	2.0	2.0	1.8	0	+ .2
Furniture and Fixtures	.6	.6	.7	0	- .1
Stone, Clay and Glass	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- .1
Machinery (except elec.)	2.5	2.5	2.4	0	+ .1
All Other	9.9	9.9	9.6	0	+ .3
Nondurable Goods	37.7	37.9	38.6	- .2	- .9
Food Products	4.6	4.6	4.5	0	+ .1
Textile Mill Products	2.6	2.6	2.8	0	- .2
Apparel	8.5	8.6	9.5	- .1	-1.0
Printing and Publishing	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
All Other	20.2	20.3	20.0	- .1	+ .2
Nonmanufacturing	142.2	142.1	142.7	+ .1	- .5
Mining	1.2	1.6	1.7	- .4	- .5
Construction	12.4	12.6	12.7	- .2	- .3
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Util.	7.9	7.9	7.7	0	+ .2
Trade	41.4	41.5	42.0	- .1	- .6
Wholesale	10.9	11.0	11.2	- .1	- .3
Wholesale Durable Goods	6.5	6.6	6.7	- .1	- .2
Wholesale Nondurable Goods	4.4	4.4	4.5	0	- .1
Retail	30.5	30.5	30.8	0	- .3
Finance, Ins. and Real Estate	8.2	8.2	7.9	0	+ .3
Service	30.7	30.7	30.5	0	+ .2
Government	40.4	39.6	40.2	+ .8	+ .2
Federal	9.0	9.0	9.1	0	- .1
State & Local	31.4	30.6	31.1	+ .8	+ .3

Includes Anderson, Blount, Knox and Union Counties, Tennessee and all of Oak Ridge.

MEMPHIS SMSA

EMPLOYMENT The civilian labor force in the Bluff City SMSA rose to 393,500 during September; 6,900 over the previous month. Employment, however, rose by only 2,000. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment showed an increase of 2,600 during the month with most of that (2,300) occurring in the nonmanufacturing sector. Government employment increased by 2,600 employees with state and local government accounting for 2,500. Employment was stable in other areas with no industry showing a gain or loss greater than 300.

OVER THE YEAR Employment in the Memphis SMSA increased 13,800 during the year. Nonagricultural employment rose by only 2,600, however. Manufacturing lost 1,400 while nonmanufacturing gained 4,000. The largest increases in the nonmanufacturing sector came in service (2,500), mining (800) and construction (800). The biggest loser among manufacturing industries was food products (1,200).

UNEMPLOYMENT The unemployment rate for the area was 6.5 percent during September as the number of unemployed rose to 25,400; up from the previous month's rate of 5.3 percent with 20,500 unemployed. One year ago the rate was 5.5 percent with 20,800 unemployed.

HOURS AND EARNINGS Memphis production workers showed an increase in the average weekly earnings of $10.07 (3.8 percent); rising to $271.65 for the month of September. The average weekly hours increased 0.6 hours for the same period. Memphis average weekly earnings for durable and nondurable goods increased 5.8 percent and 2.3 percent respectively. For both durable and nondurable goods the average weekly hours increased from 41.0 to 41.6 hours. The largest gains were in the lumber and wood products industry where weekly earnings increased from $151.60 to $178.39 (17.7 percent) and in the chemical and allied products industry which increased from $342.37 to $374.98 (9.5 percent). The average weekly hours increased 0.3 and 3.5 hours respectively.

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (In thousands)

M	September 1979	August 1979	September 1978	Changes From: August 1979 Net	%	September 1978 Net	%
Civilian Labor Force	393.5	386.6	375.1	+6.9	+1.8	+18.4	+4.9
Unemployment	25.4	20.5	20.8	+4.9	+23.9	+4.6	+22.1
Percent of Labor Force	6.5	5.3	5.5				
Total Employment	368.1	366.1	354.3	+2.0	+0.5	+13.8	+3.9

1/ Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)

M INDUSTRY	September 1979	August 1979	September 1978	Net Change August 1979	Net Change September 1978
TOTAL	355.6	353.0	353.0	+2.6	+2.6
Manufacturing	63.2	62.9	64.6	+0.3	-1.4
Durable Goods	28.1	27.7	28.2	+0.4	-0.1
Lumber (except furniture)	3.4	3.2	3.5	+0.2	-0.1
Sawmills & Planing Mills	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+0.1
Furniture and Fixtures	3.6	3.7	3.5	-0.1	-0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	5.3	5.2	5.3	+0.1	0
Nonelectrical Machinery	6.0	5.9	6.1	+0.1	-0.1
Electrical Machinery	2.4	2.3	2.1	+0.1	+0.3
All Other	7.4	7.4	7.4	0	0
Nondurable Goods	35.1	35.2	36.4	-0.1	-1.3
Food Products	9.9	9.8	11.1	+0.1	-1.2
Bakery Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	-0.1
Apparel	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	-0.1
Paper Products	6.5	6.5	6.7	0	-0.2
Printing and Publishing	3.7	3.7	3.7	0	0
Chemicals	6.7	6.7	6.5	0	+0.2
All Other	6.2	6.4	6.2	-0.2	0
Nonmanufacturing	292.4	290.1	288.4	+2.3	+4.0
Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Construction	14.4	14.5	13.6	-0.1	+0.8
Trans., Comm. and Pub. Util.	26.5	26.5	25.7	0	+0.8
Trade	93.9	94.2	94.7	-0.3	-0.8
Wholesale	31.6	31.6	31.4	0	+0.2
Wholesale Durable Goods	19.6	19.6	19.6	0	0
Wholesale Nondurable Goods	12.0	12.0	11.8	0	+0.2
Retail	62.3	62.6	63.3	-0.3	-1.0
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	19.2	19.2	19.0	0	+0.2
Service	70.8	70.7	68.3	+0.1	+2.5
Government	67.4	64.8	66.9	+2.6	+0.5
Federal	16.7	16.5	17.3	+0.1	-0.6
State & Local	50.7	48.2	49.6	+2.5	+1.1

1/ Includes Shelby and Tipton Counties, Tennessee and Crittenden County, Arkansas

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS

M	Average Weekly Earnings Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Average Weekly Hours Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Average Hourly Earnings Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978
All Manufacturing	$271.65	$261.58	$240.60	41.6	41.0	40.1	$6.53	$6.38	$6.00
Durable Goods	253.76	239.85	212.14	41.6	41.0	38.5	6.10	5.85	5.51
Lumber & Wood Prod.	178.39	151.60	171.32	38.2	37.9	40.5	4.67	4.00	4.23
Furniture & Fixtures	162.29	156.72	150.08	39.2	38.6	39.6	4.14	4.06	3.79
Nondurable Goods	288.70	282.08	267.07	41.6	41.0	41.6	6.94	6.88	6.42
Food & Kindred Prod.	266.23	269.72	253.49	36.5	39.9	40.1	6.74	6.76	6.29
Paper & Allied Prod.	296.27	286.60	277.45	41.0	41.9	43.9	6.89	6.84	6.32
Chemical & Allied Prod.	374.98	342.37	301.97	50.4	46.9	43.7	7.44	7.30	6.91

MONTHLY REPORT ON LABOR TURNOVER RATES

M	Accession Rates: Total Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	New Hires Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Separation Rates: Total Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Quits Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Layoffs Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979
All Manufacturing	3.5	3.6	2.7	2.9	3.2	4.0	1.6	2.3	0.6	0.6
Durable Goods	4.8	4.3	3.9	3.4	3.9	4.2	2.1	2.5	0.7	0.4
Lumber	2.9	4.4	2.5	4.2	3.4	7.4	1.9	4.9	0.5	1.2
Furniture	8.5	7.4	5.9	4.7	6.2	6.7	3.4	3.8	0.3	0.8
Nonelectric Mach.	5.1	3.9	4.2	3.9	4.1	2.2	3.5	1.5	0.3	0.1
Nondurable Goods	2.6	2.9	2.0	2.5	2.8	3.9	1.3	2.1	0.6	0.6
Food	1.9	3.4	1.5	2.9	2.9	3.8	1.9	2.0	0.5	0.4
Paper	2.5	3.5	1.2	2.8	2.0	3.5	0.7	2.0	0.3	0.6
Chemicals	2.4	2.7	2.0	2.5	2.2	4.7	1.5	3.4	0.2	*

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

M	TOTAL Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	DISADVANTAGED Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	NON-WHITE Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	VETERAN Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979
New Applications	4,170	4,625	2,905	2,784	2,829	3,120	463	522
Testing	1,136	664	337	205	555	437	115	74
Enrolled in Training	143	184	115	174	123	172	7	2
Nonagricultural Placements	1,843	3,458	1,229	2,777	1,398	3,027	298	503
Counseling	921	457	695	307	756	361	92	65

NASHVILLE SMSA

EMPLOYMENT Nonagricultural wage and salary employment continued to offer little to cheer about. While total employment increased by 900, it must be noted that this was the result of the resolution of a strike in transportation equipment and the return of school personnel. All other sectors demonstrated little activity either positive or negative. It appears that a definite slowdown in economic activity is occurring in this area.

OVER THE YEAR Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Nashville SMSA has decreased 3,700 since September, '78. Total decreases in both sectors were close with manufacturing losing 2,000 employees and nonmanufacturing dropping 1,600. Within the manufacturing sector every industry but two showed some loss. The lumber industry and all other nondurable goods showed modest gains of 200 and 100 respectively. The nonmanufacturing sector however, had gains in several industries offset by the substantial losses in service (1,700) and government (1,900).

UNEMPLOYMENT Unemployment dropped from 5.0% in August to 4.7% in September; primarily the result of the return of school personnel. The size of the labor force increased from 407.5 thousand in August to 408.1 thousand in September. The number employed also increased while the number of unemployed declined. The unemployment rate increased from the previous year 3.7% to 4.7%, but it should be noted that more people were employed in September '79 than a year ago.

HOURS AND EARNINGS The average weekly earnings increased from $238.40 to $246.84 (3.5 percent) and the average weekly hours increased from 40.0 to 40.8 hours for Nashville production workers for the month of September. The average weekly earnings for durable goods increased $7.54 (3.1 percent) to $253.94 and the average weekly hours gained 0.5 hours to 40.6. There was an increase of $10.34 (4.5 percent) in the average weekly earnings of nondurable goods production workers. The average weekly hours also increased from 40.0 to 41.3 hours. The largest industry increase in the average weekly earnings was in food and kindred products which rose from $273.08 to $283.18 (3.7 percent) while the average weekly hours increased 1.0 hours to 41.1 hours.

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (in thousands)

	September 1979	August 1979	September 1978	Changes From: August 1979		September 1978	
				Net	%	Net	%
Civilian Labor Force	408.1	407.5	397.9	+ .6	+ .1	+10.2	+ 2.6
Unemployment	19.1	20.2	14.9	- 1.1	- 5.4	+ 4.2	+ 28.2
Percent of Labor Force	4.7	5.0	3.7	X	X	X	X
Total Employment	389.0	387.3	383.0	+ 1.7	+ .4	6.0	+ 1.6

1/ Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978
All Manufacturing	$246.84	$238.40	$225.74	40.8	40.0	40.6	$6.05	$5.96	$5.56
Durable Goods	253.94	246.40	239.44	40.5	40.0	41.0	6.27	6.16	5.84
Nondurable Goods	239.54	229.20	208.52	41.3	40.0	40.1	5.80	5.73	5.20
Food & Kindred Prod.	283.18	273.08	231.81	41.1	40.1	39.9	6.89	6.81	5.86
Printing & Publishing	271.30	262.17	247.80	43.2	40.9	41.5	6.28	6.35	6.00

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

	TOTAL		DISADVANTAGED		NON-WHITE		VETERAN	
	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979
New Applications	3,487	3,973	1,084	1,386	1,147	1,419	448	443
Testing	207	241	48	57	41	52	18	17
Enrolled in Training	58	119	44	35	34	27	9	14
Nonagricultural Placements	2,282	2,301	968	1,138	873	1,067	421	414
Counseling	439	384	233	287	196	209	86	99

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	September 1979	August 1979	September 1978	Net Change: August 1979 to Sept. 1979	Net Change: September 1978 to September 1979
TOTAL	353.2	350.3	354.9	+ .9	- 1.7
Manufacturing	80.3	79.9	82.3	+ .4	- 2.0
Durable Goods	40.8	40.4	41.8	+ .4	- 1.0
Lumber (except furniture)	1.7	1.7	1.5	0	+ .2
Furniture and Fixtures	3.9	3.9	3.9	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	6.8	6.9	6.9	- .1	- .1
Machinery	10.6	10.7	11.1	- .1	- .5
Transportation	9.0	8.5	9.4	+ .5	- .4
All Other	8.8	8.7	9.0	+ .1	- .2
Nondurable Goods	39.5	39.5	40.5	0	- 1.0
Food Products	6.7	6.7	6.8	0	- .1
Textile Mill Products	1.3	1.3	1.4	0	- .1
Apparel	5.2	5.3	5.3	- .1	- .1
Printing and Publishing	10.3	10.2	10.4	+ .1	- .1
Petroleum and Rubber	4.0	4.0	4.4	0	- .4
Leather	4.0	4.0	5.3	- .1	- .3
All Other	7.2	7.1	7.1	+ .1	+ .1
Nonmanufacturing	270.9	270.4	272.6	+ .5	- 1.6
Construction	22.1	22.1	21.5	0	+ .6
Trans., Comm. & Public Util.	19.5	19.6	19.0	- .1	+ .5
Trade	80.8	80.9	80.6	- .1	+ .2
Wholesale	22.0	22.1	22.0	- .1	0
Wholesale Durable Goods	14.6	14.7	14.4	- .1	+ .2
Wholesale Nondurable Goods	7.4	7.4	7.6	0	- .2
Retail	58.8	58.8	58.6	0	+ .2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	22.5	22.7	21.9	- .2	+ .6
Service and Miscellaneous	64.3	64.3	66.0	0	- 1.7
Government	61.7	60.8	63.6	+ .9	- 1.9
Federal	9.3	9.4	9.8	- .1	- .5
State and Local	52.4	51.4	53.8	+ 1.0	- 1.4

TRI-CITIES SMSA

EMPLOYMENT Nonagricultural wage and salary employment decreased by 800 during the period August 1979 to September 1979. Manufacturing decreased by 400. Durable goods increased by 200 while nondurable goods decreased by 600 jobs. Nonmanufacturing employment decreased by 400 jobs. The nonmanufacturing gains in transportation, communication, and public utilities (100) and services (400) were more than offset by losses in trade (100) and government (800).

OVER THE YEAR Compared with one year ago, nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased by 2,400 workers. Increased employment in durable goods (600) was partially offset by a loss in nondurable goods (300) thereby permitting manufacturing a total gain of 300. Nonmanufacturing employment increased by 2,100. Seven industrial segments expanded employment and seven reduced employment during the year. The largest increases came in all other durable goods (1,500) and government (1,100). Furniture and fixtures (700) and retail trade (600) sustained the greatest loses.

UNEMPLOYMENT Unemployment as of mid-September was 8,100 or 4.6 percent of a labor force of 175,800, compared with 8,600 or 4.8 percent of a labor force of 180,000 as of mid-August. One year ago unemployment was 7,300 or 4.3 percent of a labor force of 168,900.

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (in thousands)

	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Changes From: Aug. 1979 Net	Aug. 1979 %	Sept. 1978 Net	Sept. 1978 %
Civilian Labor Force	175.8	180.0	168.9	- 4.2	- 2.3	+ 6.9	+ 4.1
Unemployment	8.1	8.6	7.3	- .5	- 5.8	+ .8	+11.0
Percent of Labor Force	4.6	4.8	4.3				
Total Employment	167.7	171.4	161.6	- 3.7	- 2.2	+ 6.1	+ 3.8

1/ Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Net Change Aug. 1979	Net Change Sept. 1978
TOTAL	135.8	136.6	133.4	- .8	+ 2.4
Manufacturing	55.4	55.8	55.1	- .4	+ .3
Durable Goods	21.5	21.3	20.9	+ .2	+ .6
Lumber & Wood Products and Furniture & Fixtures	2.0	2.1	2.7	- .1	- .7
Stone, Clay and Glass	2.1	2.1	2.5	0	- .4
Primary Metals & Fabricated Metal Products	6.0	5.9	5.8	+ .1	+ .2
All Other Durable Goods	11.4	11.2	9.9	+ .2	+ 1.5
Nondurable Goods	33.9	34.5	34.2	- .6	- .3
Food Products	3.7	3.8	3.8	- .1	- .1
Textile Mill Products	3.1	3.1	3.3	0	- .2
Apparel	4.5	4.5	4.7	0	- .2
Paper & Allied Products and Printing & Publishing	6.3	6.4	6.3	- .1	0
All Other Nondurable Goods	16.3	16.7	16.1	- .4	+ .2
Nonmanufacturing	80.4	80.8	78.3	- .4	+ 2.1
Construction	8.4	8.4	7.8	0	+ .6
Trans., Comm., & Public Util.	6.0	5.9	6.0	+ .1	0
Trade	24.4	24.5	24.8	- .1	- .4
Wholesale	5.7	5.5	5.5	+ .2	+ .2
Retail	18.7	19.0	19.3	- .3	- .6
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	4.2	4.2	4.0	0	+ .2
Services	16.3	15.9	15.6	+ .4	+ .7
Government	20.8	21.6	19.7	- .8	+ 1.1
All Other Nonmanufacturing	.3	.3	.4	0	- .1

Includes Washington, Carter, Unicoi, Sullivan, and Hawkins Counties in Tennessee and Washington and Scott Counties and Bristol City in Virginia.

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ACTIVITIES

	TOTAL Sept. 1979	TOTAL Aug. 1979	DISADVANTAGED Sept. 1979	DISADVANTAGED Aug. 1979	NON-WHITE Sept. 1979	NON-WHITE Aug. 1979	VETERAN Sept. 1979	VETERAN Aug. 1979
New Applications	1,445	1,699	429	567	34	61	236	229
Testing	231	291	49	75	9	15	24	33
Enrolled in Training	30	8	28	7	2	2	6	2
Nonagricultural Placements	1,066	775	470	384	70	55	307	137
Counseling	122	140	70	91	5	9	29	23

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	TENNESSEE PORTION Sept. 1979	TENNESSEE PORTION Aug. 1979	TENNESSEE PORTION Sept. 1978	VIRGINIA PORTION Sept. 1979	VIRGINIA PORTION Aug. 1979	VIRGINIA PORTION Sept. 1978
TOTAL	107.8	108.6	105.7	28.0	28.0	27.7
Manufacturing	45.5	46.1	45.1	9.9	9.7	10.0
Durable Goods	16.3	16.3	15.5	5.2	5.0	5.4
Lumber & Wood Products and Furniture & Fixtures	1.4	1.5	2.0	.6	.6	.7
Stone, Clay and Glass	1.8	1.8	2.2	.3	.3	.3
Primary Metals and Fabricated Metal Products	3.8	3.8	3.7	2.2	2.1	2.1
All Other Durable Goods	9.3	9.2	7.6	2.1	2.0	2.3
Nondurable Goods	29.2	29.8	29.6	4.7	4.7	4.5
Food Products	2.0	2.1	2.1	1.7	1.7	1.7
Textile Mill Products	2.9	2.9	3.2	.2	.2	.1
Apparel	2.6	2.6	2.9	1.9	1.9	1.8
Paper & Allied Products and Printing & Publishing	5.8	5.9	5.7	.5	.5	.6
All Other Nondurable Goods	15.9	16.3	15.7	.4	.4	.4
Nonmanufacturing	62.3	62.5	60.6	18.1	18.3	17.7
Construction	6.8	6.7	6.2	1.6	1.7	1.6
Trans., Comm., & Public Util.	5.0	4.9	5.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Trade	18.1	18.1	18.6	6.3	6.4	6.2
Wholesale	4.0	4.0	4.2	1.5	1.5	1.5
Retail	13.9	14.1	14.6	4.8	4.9	4.7
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	3.2	3.3	3.1	1.0	.9	.9
Services	13.0	12.7	12.1	3.3	3.2	3.1
Government	16.1	16.7	15.0	4.7	4.9	4.7
All Other Nonmanufacturing	.1	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2

Includes Washington, Carter, Unicoi, Sullivan, and Hawkins Counties in Tennessee and Washington and Scott Counties and Bristol City in Virginia.

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (in thousands)

	TENNESSEE PORTION Sept. 1979	TENNESSEE PORTION Aug. 1979	TENNESSEE PORTION Sept. 1978	VIRGINIA PORTION Sept. 1979	VIRGINIA PORTION Aug. 1979	VIRGINIA PORTION Sept. 1978
Civilian Labor Force	137.6	141.3	133.3	38.2	38.7	35.6
Unemployment	6.4	6.9	5.7	1.7	1.7	1.6
Percent of Labor Force	4.7	4.9	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.5
Total Employment	131.2	134.4	127.6	36.5	37.0	34.0

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR ALL URBAN CONSUMERS AND URBAN WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS
U. S. CITY AVERAGE (1967=100)
SEPTEMBER 1979

	ALL URBAN CONSUMERS			REVISED URBAN WAGE EARNERS & CLERICAL WORKERS		
	Index Sept. 1979	Percent Change to Sept. 1979 from		Index Sept. 1979	Percent Change to Sept. 1979 from	
		Sept. 1978	Aug. 1979		Sept. 1978	Aug. 1979
ALL ITEMS	223.4	12.1	1.0	223.7	12.4	1.0
ALL ITEMS (1957-59=100)	259.8	-	-	260.1	-	-
FOOD AND BEVERAGES	231.0	9.8	0.3	231.2	10.0	0.3
HOUSING 1/	234.6	13.1	1.3	234.5	13.3	1.3
APPAREL AND UPKEEP	169.8	4.9	2.1	169.3	4.6	1.9
TRANSPORTATION	221.4	17.3	0.8	222.4	17.5	0.8
MEDICAL CARE	243.7	9.5	0.8	244.7	9.8	0.9
ENTERTAINMENT 1/	191.1	7.2	0.5	190.2	7.2	0.7
OTHER GOODS AND SER. 1/	201.7	7.4	2.4	200.6	7.2	1.7
SPECIAL GROUPS:						
COMMODITIES	214.1	12.4	0.9	214.4	12.6	0.8
SERVICES	240.7	11.6	1.3	241.0	12.0	1.3
PURCHASING POWER OF THE CONSUMER DOLLAR:						
1967=$1.00	$.448	- 10.8	- 0.9	$.447	- 11.0	- 0.9
1957-59=$1.00	$.385	-	-	$.384	-	-
1957						

1/ Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.
* August to August percent change should have read 7.0.

For detailed breakouts of the above categories, contact:

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POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
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7101 Wisconsin Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20014

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THE LABOR MARKET REPORT

TENNESSEE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AFFILIATED WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

DATA FOR: OCTOBER 1979 RELEASE DATE: DECEMBER 1979

State unemployment rate unchanged. October saw no change in the percentage of Tennesseans employed as the rate remained at 5.9 percent. The state's labor force grew by 9,700 over the month while the number employed grew by 9,500. The unemployment rate for October, 1978 was 5.3 percent.

U. S. unemployment constant. The nation's unemployment rate remained unchanged during October at 5.6 percent. One year ago the rate was 5.4 percent.

Tennesseeans rank 36th in pay. Recent figures released by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate that workers in the state earn an average $10,695 annually, behind thirty five states and the District of Columbia. These figures are based on ES 202 data which includes only jobs covered by unemployment insurance. This includes approximately ninty-seven percent of the employed in Tennessee.

Tennessee earnings compare with other area states. In a comparison with her sister states in the southeast, Tennessee ranked about average according to the BLS data. Average earnings were substantially higher than Mississippi, South Carolina and North Carolina and slightly above Florida while below those for Kentucky, Alabama and Georgia.

Knoxville SMSA leads in annual average pay. In reporting on the annual average pay for 266 selected SMSA's throughout the nation, BLS listed six areas in Tennessee. Heading the list was the Knoxville SMSA ($11,432), ranked 138th. Following were Chattanooga ($11,401), ranked 141st, Memphis ($11,366), ranked 144th, Nashville ($11,047), ranked 167th, Johnson City ($10,828), ranked 183rd, and Clarksville ($9,544), ranked 255th.

Initial claims jump. Initial claims increased to 41,073 during October; an increase of 11,345 over September's figure.

CPI continues upward at 12 percent annual rate. The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers rose to 225.4 during October while the Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers category reached 225.6. These increases represented 12.2 percent and 12.4 percent annual increases for their respective categories.

October's benefit check, trust fund increase. Benefit checks for October averaged $73.43, a $.74 increase over September's check. The trust fund also increased, reaching $276.6 million; a $4.0 million hike over the previous month.

LAMAR ALEXANDER, GOVERNOR ROBERT J. BIBLE, COMMISSIONER
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STATEWIDE

EMPLOYMENT The Volunteer State experienced a slight increase in its labor force during October as it reached 2,033,600; an increase of 9,700 over the previous month. The increase was almost matched by the gain in employment over the month as 9,500 additional workers held jobs during this period. Nonagricultural employment in Tennessee rose 7,700 with nonmanufacturing industries accounting for six out of seven of all new employees. Most of this 6,600 gain in nonmanufacturing occurred in state and local government (6,100) reflecting seasonal changes in the school systems. A significant increase also occurred in the services industry (1,700). The greatest gain among manufacturing industries occurred in the nonelectrical machinery industry (1,500)

OVER THE YEAR During the past twelve months the state's labor force has increased 67,400. Employment has risen by 52,200 while unemployment is up 15,200. The number of nonagricultural employment has risen by 8,800 since October of last year. During this period, manufacturing industries lost 4,900 while nonmanufacturing industries gained 13,700. Although the manufacturing sector had two industries, nonelectrical machinery (2,400) and apparel (2,400) that showed substantial increases over the year, a number of others showed considerable losses to account for the sector wide reduction of nearly 5,000. The nonmanufacturing sector showed several increases. The most notable including services (8,200), government (5,200), and construction (4,800).

UNEMPLOYMENT The state's unemployment rate remained at 5.9 percent during October. The 200 additional workers without jobs in the state combined with the 9,500 increase in employment to keep the rate at a constant level. The unemployment rate for October of last year was 5.3 percent.

HOURS AND EARNINGS Average weekly earnings of Tennessee production workers increased $2.40 (1.1 percent) during October. Both the durable and nondurable goods sectors increased. The former by $1.45 (0.6 percent) and the latter by $2.36 (1.1 percent). The largest change occurred in the Rubber and Plastic Products industries; $20.29 (8.7 percent) due to more overtime. Especially important here is the 25 cent wage rate increase combined with the 1.7 hour longer workweek. Both the national hourly rate and the Tennessee hourly rate increased in October. The former by 3 cents to $6.83 and the latter by 6 cents to $5.63. Still, the statewide total is two years behind the national average.

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (in thousands)

	October 1979	September 1979	October 1978	Changes From: Sept. 1979 Net	Sept. 1979 %	Oct. 1978 Net	Oct. 1978 %
Civilian Labor Force	2,033.6	2,023.9	1,966.2	+9.7	+0.5	+67.4	+ 3.4
Employment 1/	1,913.6	1,904.1	1,861.4	+9.5	+0.5	+52.2	+ 2.8
Unemployment	120.0	119.8	104.8	+0.2	+0.2	+15.2	+14.5
Percent of Labor Force	5.9	5.9	5.3	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
U. S. Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.6	5.4	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

1/ Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS

	Average Weekly Earnings Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978	Average Weekly Hours Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978	Average Hourly Earnings Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978
All Manufacturing	$234.44	$232.24	$208.88	39.9	39.9	40.0	$5.63	$5.57	$5.22
Durable Goods	235.13	233.68	215.20	40.4	40.5	40.0	5.82	5.77	5.38
Lumber and Wood Products	164.01	162.36	153.66	40.1	39.6	39.1	4.09	4.10	3.93
Furniture and Fixtures	173.81	171.77	153.52	38.2	38.6	38.0	4.55	4.45	4.04
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	286.42	292.50	290.11	41.4	40.4	43.3	7.16	7.24	6.70
Primary Metal Products	295.20	295.65	313.20	41.0	41.7	43.5	7.20	7.09	7.20
Fabricated Metal Products	250.47	253.76	225.82	41.4	41.6	38.8	6.05	6.10	5.82
Machinery, Incl. Elect.	235.07	235.91	206.44	40.6	41.1	39.7	5.79	5.74	5.20
Instru. and Related Prod.	192.36	196.60	180.25	39.5	40.0	39.1	4.87	4.91	4.61
Nondurable Goods	214.73	212.37	202.69	39.6	39.4	39.9	5.45	5.39	5.08
Food & Kindred Products	226.33	232.06	211.74	40.2	41.0	39.8	5.63	5.66	5.32
Textile Mill Products	182.03	172.59	172.21	39.4	39.1	41.1	4.62	4.53	4.19
Apparel	150.96	148.34	142.50	37.0	36.9	37.6	4.08	4.02	3.79
Paper and Allied Prod.	291.56	296.67	268.36	43.6	43.5	42.8	6.71	6.82	6.27
Chemical & Allied Prod.	302.76	298.89	281.81	40.1	40.5	41.2	7.55	7.38	6.84
Rubber & Plastic Prod.	252.19	231.90	243.96	42.6	40.9	42.8	5.92	5.67	5.70
Leather & Leather Prod.	180.80	179.49	152.60	40.0	40.7	38.1	4.52	4.41	4.00

INDUSTRY	October 1979	September 1979	October 1978	Net Change Sept. 1979 To Oct. 1979	Net Change Oct. 1978 To Oct. 1979
TOTAL	1,745.5	1,737.8	1,736.7	+7.7	+ 8.8
Manufacturing	519.0	517.9	523.9	+1.1	- 4.9
Durable Goods	236.8	232.8	240.2	+2.0	- 3.4
Lumber	20.6	20.4	20.0	+0.2	+ 0.6
Furniture & Fixtures	25.3	24.9	27.3	+0.4	- 2.0
Stone, Clay & Glass	16.2	16.5	17.6	-0.3	- 1.2
Primary Metal Industries	18.3	18.4	19.6	-0.1	- 1.3
Fabricated Metal Products	31.5	31.9	33.9	-0.4	- 2.4
Nonelectrical Machinery	37.4	35.9	35.0	+1.5	+ 2.4
Electrical Machinery	42.6	42.6	44.2	.0	- 1.6
Transportation Equipment	26.6	26.0	26.5	+0.6	- 0.1
Precision Instr. & Ordnance	7.1	6.9	6.9	+0.2	+ 0.2
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	11.6	11.5	11.4	+0.1	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	284.2	285.1	283.7	-0.9	+ 0.5
Food Products	40.3	40.5	40.5	-0.2	- 0.2
Meat Products	7.9	8.2	8.1	-0.3	- 0.2
Dairy Products	3.6	3.7	3.6	-0.1	.0
Tobacco	1.7	1.5	1.2	+0.2	+ 0.5
Textile Mills	26.5	26.5	27.7	0	- 1.2
Knitting Mills	12.7	12.8	13.7	-0.1	- 1.0
Yarn & Thread Mills	1.8	1.9	2.0	-0.1	- 0.2
Apparel	73.9	74.2	71.5	-0.3	+ 2.4
Paper	17.7	17.6	17.8	+0.1	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	25.3	25.4	25.2	-0.1	+ 0.1
Chemicals	56.4	56.9	56.9	-0.5	- 0.5
Ind. Inorganic & Organic Chem.	22.4	22.5	22.2	-0.1	+ 0.2
Petroleum Refining, Etc.	.9	.9	.9	0	0
Rubber	21.2	21.3	22.3	-0.1	- 1.1
Leather	20.3	20.3	19.7	0	+ 0.6
Nonmanufacturing	1,226.5	1,219.9	1,212.8	+0.6	+13.7
Mining	10.3	10.3	10.0	0	+ 0.3
Construction	97.4	97.2	92.6	+0.2	+ 4.8
Trans., Comm., & Public Utilities	82.9	83.7	84.1	-0.8	- 1.2
Trade	369.7	369.8	375.3	-0.1	- 5.6
Wholesale Trade	105.0	105.2	104.0	-0.2	+ 1.0
Wholesale Durable Goods	62.1	62.1	62.0	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Nondurable Goods	42.9	43.1	42.0	-0.2	+ 0.9
Retail Trade	266.7	266.6	271.3	+0.1	- 6.6
Retail General Merchandise	39.8	39.4	41.8	+0.4	- 2.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	74.8	75.3	72.8	-0.5	+ 2.0
Banking	24.7	24.7	24.0	-0.2	+ 0.5
Insurance Carriers	19.1	19.1	18.6	0	+ 0.5
Services	276.5	274.8	268.3	+1.7	+ 8.2
Government	314.9	308.8	309.7	+6.1	+ 5.2
Federal	66.0	66.3	68.0	-0.3	- 0.2
State & Local	248.9	242.5	241.7	+6.4	+ 7.2

CHATTANOOGA SMSA

EMPLOYMENT Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Chattanooga SMSA increased 400 or 0.2 percent between mid-September and mid-October. Most of the increase was attributed to working students and recalls of nonprofessional employment in schools throughout the SMSA. Small layoffs were recorded in several manufacturing industries with a total loss of 300, which was offset by gains registered in nonmanufacturing industries for a net gain of 400 for all industries between months. The present level of nonagricultural wage and salary employment stands at 168,000.

OVER THE YEAR Nonagricultural wage and salary employment is down by only 100 workers. The change is between the number of workers engaged in manufacturing and those in nonmanufacturing jobs. The number of workers in nonmanufacturing industries has increased 1,600 while the number of workers has decreased by 1,700 in manufacturing for a net loss of 100 over the year. All manufacturing industry groups except three have experienced a loss of employment over the year. The three that have increased employment are: stone, clay and glass, nonelectrical machinery and food products. A year ago nonagricultural wage and salary employment was 168,100.

UNEMPLOYMENT As of mid-October was 12,900 or 6.7 percent of a labor force of 193,600 as compared with 11,700 or 6.1 percent of a labor force of 191,800 in mid-September and 9,600 or 5.2 percent of a labor force of 186,200 in October 1978.

HOURS AND EARNINGS Chattanooga production workers took home slightly less per week during October, dropping from an average weekly earnings of $229.54 to $227.83, a 0.7 percent change. The average weekly hours also showed a slight decline, from 40.2 to 39.9 hours per week, which probably accounts for the decline in wages. Total durable goods showed a decline in the average weekly earnings of $6.51 (2.5 percent), dropping from $225.43 to $248.92 for October. The stone, clay and glass products industry showed the largest decline among durable goods industry with average weekly earnings dropping from $257.44 to $232.47 (a 9.7 percent change), while the average weekly hours declined from 40.1 to 37.9 hours, (5.5 percent). Nondurable goods showed an increase in both the average weekly earnings and the average weekly hours, with the former going from $205.67 to $209.44 and latter from 39.4 to 40.2 hours. The largest change was in paper and allied products which increased its average weekly earnings to $301.92 (3.8 percent), as the average weekly hours increased from 46.3 to 48.0 hours.

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (In thousands)

	October 1979	September 1979	October 1978	Changes From Sept. 1979 Net	Changes From Sept. 1979 %	Changes From October 1978 Net	Changes From October 1978 %
Civilian Labor Force	193.5	193.5	186.2	+1.8	+ 0.9	+7.4	+ 4.0
Unemployment	12.9	11.7	9.6	+1.2	+10.3	+3.3	+34.4
Percent of Labor Force	6.7	6.1	5.2	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total Employment	180.7	180.1	176.6	+0.6	+ 0.3	+4.1	+ 2.3

1/ Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS

	Average Weekly Earnings Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978	Average Weekly Hours Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978	Average Hourly Earnings Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978
All Manufacturing	$227.83	$229.54	$217.21	39.9	40.2	40.6	$5.71	$5.71	$5.35
Durable Goods	248.92	255.43	236.96	39.1	41.0	40.3	6.37	6.23	5.88
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	255.82	269.47	242.56	37.9	40.1	38.0	6.75	6.72	6.38
Iron & Steel Foundries	232.47	257.44	216.30	36.9	40.1	41.0	6.30	6.42	6.14
Fabricated Metal Products	292.13	293.66	257.34	40.8	40.9	38.2	7.16	7.18	6.86
Machinery, Except Elect.	279.07	269.81	228.73	45.6	46.2	41.0	6.12	5.84	5.53
Nondurable Goods	209.44	205.67	199.18	40.2	39.4	40.9	5.21	5.22	4.87
Textile Mill Products	181.79	184.69	172.43	41.6	39.3	41.8	4.37	4.54	4.13
Knitting Mills	147.75	145.14	132.62	37.5	37.6	38.0	3.94	3.86	3.49
Paper and Allied Prod.	301.92	290.76	281.13	48.0	46.3	48.9	6.29	6.28	5.75
Chemicals and Allied Prod.	251.85	246.52	236.43	40.2	40.9	42.1	7.26	7.25	6.74

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)

INDUSTRY	1979 October	1979 September	1978 October	Net Change 9-79 to 10-79	Net Change 10-78 to 10-79
TOTAL	168.0	167.6	166.1	+.4	-.1
Manufacturing	53.8	54.1	55.5	-.3	-1.7
Durable Goods	24.1	24.2	25.1	-.1	-1.0
Lumber (except furniture)	.8	.8	.8	0	0
Stone, Clay and Glass	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+.1
Primary Metals	4.7	4.8	5.0	-.1	-.3
Fabricated Metal Prod.	8.1	8.1	8.6	0	-.5
Machinery (except elec.)	3.6	3.6	3.4	0	+.2
All Other	4.2	4.2	4.7	0	-.5
Nondurable Goods	29.7	29.9	30.4	-.2	-.7
Food Products	5.1	5.1	5.0	0	+.1
Textile Mill Products	13.1	13.2	13.6	-.1	-.5
Knitting Mills	2.8	2.9	3.2	-.0	-.4
Apparel	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Paper Products	4.2	4.2	4.2	0	0
Printing and Publishing	1.8	1.7	1.8	+.1	0
Chemicals	1.8	6.0	6.0	-.2	-.2
All Other	1.3	1.3	1.4	0	-.1
Nonmanufacturing	114.2	113.5	112.6	+.7	+1.6
Mining	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Construction	7.1	7.2	7.2	-.1	-.2
Trans., Comm., and Pub. Util.	6.8	6.8	6.6	0	+.2
Trade	29.8	30.0	30.4	-.2	-.6
Wholesale Trade	8.6	8.6	8.3	0	+.3
Wholesale Durable Goods	5.5	5.5	5.3	0	+.2
Wholesale Nondurable Goods	3.1	3.1	3.0	0	+.1
Retail Trade	21.2	21.4	22.1	-.2	-.9
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	9.9	9.8	9.4	+.1	+.5
Service	24.2	24.1	24.3	+.1	-.1
Government	33.1	32.3	31.3	+.8	+1.8
Federal	9.8	9.9	10.5	-.1	-.7
State and Local	23.3	22.4	20.8	+.9	+2.5

Includes Hamilton, Marion, Sequatchie Counties, Tennessee and Catoosa, Dade, Walker Counties, Georgia.

KNOXVILLE SMSA

EMPLOYMENT Nonagricultural employment gained 100 from the September to October period. The manufacturing sector was off 500 as some industries were stable and scattered losses were recorded in others. No manufacturing industry showed an increase over the month. The greatest drop in employment occurred in apparel, which was down 200. The nonmanufacturing sector was up 600 as most industries were unchanged and local go government gained 500 due to seasonal increases in school system related employment.

OVER THE YEAR Over the year, nonagricultural employment was down 1,900. The manufacturing sector was even as scattered gains and losses resulted in a gain of 300 in nondurable goods. All other durable goods and nondurable goods gained 300 each while apparel dropped 500 due to overall decline in demand and completion of government contracts. Nonmanufacturing was off by 1,900 as most industries lost employment. Some gains were noted, how ever; transportation, communication and public utilities (200), finance, insurance and real estate (400) and service (200). Mining was down by 400 due to a labor-management dispute. Construction was down 400 due to tight money policies and high interest rates. Trade was down 900 due to overall decline in demand and government was down 1,000 due to the closing of a government supported hospital in the area. Also noteworthy is the fact that the employment figure for one year ago was inflated by a temporary repair project related to a governmental installation.

UNEMPLOYMENT Unemployment estimates totaled 10,500 or 5.0 percent of the labor force of 212,100 in October as compared with 9,100 or 4.3 percent of the labor force of 214,000 in September and 11,500 or 5.5 percent of the labor force of 207,300 in October, 1978.

HOURS AND EARNINGS The average weekly earn - ings for Knoxville production workers showed almost no change for October going from $261.60 to $262.00 a week. Considering the rate of inflation this may be seen as a net decline. The average weekly hours stayed the same at 40.0 hours. Durable goods and nondurable goods offset each other with durable goods decreasing from $308.59 to $301.73 for the average weekly earnings and nondurable goods increasing from $235.62 to $239.17. The average weekly hours reflected the same kind of change, going from 42.8 to 42.2 for durable goods and from 38.5 to 38.7 for nondurable goods. The largest increase was in apparel and other textile products which rose from $154.36 to $166.14 for the average weekly earnings while the average weekly hours increased 1.5 hours per week to 35.5 hours. The largest decrease was in stone, clay and glass products which declined $28.96 to $256.46 for the average weekly earnings, with the average weekly hours dropping from 40.6 to 39.7 hours.

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY (In thousands)

	October 1978	September 1978	October 1978	Change From: Sept. 1978 Net	Sept. 1978 %	Oct. 1978 Net	Oct. 1978 %
Civilian Labor Force	212.1	214.0	207.3	-1.9	- 0.8	+4.8	+2.3
Unemployment	10.5	9.1	11.5	+1.4	+15.4	-1.0	-8.7
Percent of Labor Force	5.0	4.3	5.5	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
Total Employment	201.6	204.9	195.8	-3.3	- 1.6	+5.8	+3.0

1/ Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS

	Average Weekly Earnings Oct. 1978	Sept. 1978	Oct. 1978	Average Weekly Hours Oct. 1978	Sept. 1978	Oct. 1978	Average Hourly Earnings Oct. 1978	Sept. 1978	Oct. 1978
All Manufacturing	$262.00	$261.60	$248.02	40.0	40.0	41.2	[illegible]	$6.54	$6.02
Durable Goods	301.73	308.59	266.80	42.2	42.8	42.0	7.15	7.21	6.40
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	256.46	285.42	246.32	39.7	40.6	43.2	6.46	7.03	5.62
Machinery, Ex. Elect.	268.38	275.62	235.03	45.6	46.4	43.2	5.89	5.94	5.44
Nondurable Goods	239.17	235.62	237.46	38.7	38.5	40.8	6.18	6.12	5.82
Food & Kindred Products	205.83	208.41	207.30	43.2	43.6	44.2	4.76	4.78	4.69
Textile Mill Products	144.76	144.72	147.91	38.5	38.8	43.5	3.76	3.73	3.86
Apparel & Other Tex. Prod.	166.14	154.36	166.73	35.5	34.0	39.9	4.68	4.54	4.68

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	OCTOBER 1978	SEPTEMBER 1978	OCTOBER 1977	Net Change: SEPTEMBER 1978	Net Change: OCTOBER 1978
TOTAL	196.0	195.9	195.9	+0.1	+0.1
Manufacturing	53.0	53.5	53.0	-0.5	0
Durable Goods	15.0	15.0	15.5	+0.0	-0.5
Lumber (except furniture)	1.9	1.9	1.8	+0.0	+0.1
Furniture and Fixtures	.6	.6	.7	0	-0.1
Stone, Clay and Glass *	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	-0.1
Machinery (except elec.)	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+0.1
All Other	9.0	9.0	9.5	-0.1	-0.5
Nondurable Goods	37.9	37.9	37.5	-0.1	+0.3
Food Products	4.1	4.1	4.5	-0.1	-0.4
Textile Mill Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Apparel	8.1	8.3	8.8	-0.2	-0.7
Printing and Publishing	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
All Other	20.8	20.6	19.9	0	+0.3
Nonmanufacturing	144.0	142.5	144.7	+0.5	+1.9
Mining	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	+0.4
Construction	14.5	13.6	14.9	+0.1	+0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Util.	7.9	7.9	7.7	0	+0.2
Trade	41.4	41.4	40.1	0	+0.9
Wholesale	10.9	10.9	11.1	0	+0.4
Wholesale Durable Goods	6.3	6.3	6.8	0	+0.1
Wholesale Nondurable Goods	4.6	4.6	4.3	0	+0.1
Retail	30.5	30.5	31.0	0	+0.5
Finance, Ins. and Real Estate	8.2	8.2	7.8	0	+0.4
Service	30.7	30.7	30.5	0	+0.2
Government	40.9	40.4	41.9	+0.5	-1.0
Federal	9.0	9.0	9.1	0	-0.1
State & Local	31.9	31.4	32.8	+0.5	-0.9

Includes Anderson, Blount, Knox and Union Counties, Tennessee and all of Oak Ridge.